SENATE FILE NO. SF0056

Study on transfer of public lands.

Sponsored by: Select Federal Natural Resource Management Committee

A BILL

for

- 1 AN ACT relating to public lands; providing that the office 2 of state lands and investments shall commission a study and
- 3 provide a report addressing the transfer of management and
- 4 control of public lands in Wyoming from the federal
- 5 government to the state; specifying what the study shall
- 6 not include; providing an appropriation; and providing for
- 7 an effective date.

8

9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

10

11 Section 1.

12

- 13 (a) The office of state lands and investments shall
- 14 commission a study to address the transfer of specified
- 15 federally administered public lands in the state of Wyoming

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1 from the federal government to the state of Wyoming in

2 contemplation of congress turning over the management and

3 control of those public lands to the state of Wyoming.

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5 (b) The study shall include:

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7 (i) An identification of the public lands to be

8 transferred and the interests, rights and uses associated

9 with those lands;

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11 (ii) The development of a proposed plan for the

12 administration, management and use of the public lands that

13 includes, but is not limited to, a pledge to maintain

14 public access to the lands for hunting, fishing and

15 recreation subject to closure for special circumstances

16 including public safety and environmental sensitivity;

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18 (iii) An economic analysis concerning the

19 transfer of the public lands, including but not limited to:

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21 (A) The identification of the costs

22 directly incident to the transfer of title of those lands;

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1	(B) The identification of sources of
2	revenue to pay for the administration and maintenance of
3	those lands by the state of Wyoming;
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5	(C) A determination of the amount of any
6	revenue that is currently received by the state of Wyoming
7	or political subdivision thereof in connection with those
8	lands, including but not limited to, any payments made in
9	lieu of taxes and mineral royalties and leases;
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11	(D) The identification of any potential
12	revenue to be received from those lands by the state of
13	Wyoming after the transfer of the lands and recommendations
14	for the distribution of those revenues;
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16	(E) The identification of any loss of
17	revenue to the state of Wyoming due to permitting delays
18	associated with, or caused by, analysis of proposed actions
19	on public lands under the National Environmental Protection
20	Act or other federal law or regulation; and
21	
22	(F) A consideration of other relevant
23	federal actions or policies determined to impact revenues

3 SF0056 1 to the state of Wyoming due to federally owned and managed

2 lands.

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4 (c) The study shall not include consideration for

5 transfer of current congressionally designated wilderness

6 areas, national conservation areas or lands currently

7 administered by the department of energy, department of

8 defense or the department of interior's Bureau of Indian

9 Affairs, United States fish and wildlife service or

10 national park service.

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12 (d) The office of state lands and investments may

13 engage the services of research or consulting firms as

14 necessary to carry out the purposes of this act. The

15 office of state lands and investments shall consult with

16 the attorney general's office, the governor's office and

17 county commissioners in developing the study pursuant to

18 this act.

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20 (e) The office of state lands and investments shall

21 regularly provide updates on the study to the select

22 federal natural resource management committee. The office

23 of state lands and investments shall submit a final report

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1 to the select federal natural resource management committee

2 no later than November 30, 2017. The final report shall

3 include the study results and recommendations with respect

4 to the issues specified in subsections (b) and (d) of this

5 section. The select federal natural resource management

6 committee shall consider the recommendations and develop

7 legislation it deems appropriate for consideration by the

8 legislature.

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Section 2. There is appropriated one hundred thousand 10 11 dollars (\$100,000.00) from the general fund to the office 12 of state lands and investments. This appropriation shall 13 only be expended for the purpose of commissioning a study 14 and hiring consultants to assist in the study pursuant to 15 this act. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this 16 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any 17 other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds 18 remaining from this appropriation shall revert on June 30,

20

19

2018.

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1 Section 3. This act is effective immediately upon

2 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law

3 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming

4 Constitution.

2015

5

6 (END)

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